



JC03 Rec'd PCT/PTO 1 1 APR 2005 #3
PCT

PATENT

IS-US040596

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Kazuya SUGIMURA et al.

Serial No.: 10/518,244 ✓

Filed: December 16, 2004

For: SEASONING PROCESSING SYSTEM

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In accordance with MPEP 609 and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants bring the attached references to the Examiner's attention and requests that they be considered and made of record in this application. Also attached is a completed PTO-1449 form. ***No fee is believed to be due for this Information Disclosure Statement.*** However, if a first Office Action on the merits was mailed before the filing date of this Information Disclosure Statement, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 50-1836. A duplicate copy of this Statement is enclosed for that purpose.

A copy of the international Search Report of the corresponding international application is attached hereto. Also, the relevance of Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2002-171923 is discussed on page 1, lines 10-27 of the translation of the international application.

Prompt examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Kiyoe K. Kabashima
Attorney of Record
Reg. No. 54,874

SHINJYU GLOBAL IP COUNSELORS, LLP
1233 Twentieth Street, NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20036
(202)-293-0444

Dated: Apr 11, 2005
G:\04-APR05-MTIS-US040596 IDS.doc

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act

no persons are required to respond to a collection of information un

Contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	1
-------	---	----	---

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/518,244
Filing Date	12/16/04
First Named Inventor	Kazuya SUGIMURA et al.
Group Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	IS-US040596

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP-53-18750-A	02/21/1978	OSUGA	Entire disclosure	NO
		JP-01-120251-A	05/12/1989	OISHI	Entire disclosure	NO
		JP-38-20287-A	10/02/1963	WEIS	Entire disclosure	NO
		JP-171913-A	06/18/2002	YAKUSHIGAWA	Fig. 1	YES

**Examiner
Signature**

Date
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.

³ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ⁴ See KINUS Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or WIPO 901.0 ⁵ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁶ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁷ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁸ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:** Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.